

Chronology of Events Surrounding 1969 Meat Shortage and Livestock Campaign

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November 1969 - Several in the leadership indicated that "special measures" had been adopted to aid the livestock sector in overcoming "current difficulties."

13 Nov - Politburo Member Shelest addressed the Ukrainian Farm Congress

"Recently, the situation has deteriorated in satisfying the people's needs in meat and meat products. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and Government have taken additional steps, which are known to you, to achieve an increase in meat production. Fodder supplies at farms have improved; the number of cattle has increased; and a general improvement has been achieved in cattle fattening, including those at private plots of collective farmers...However, the problem has not yet been completely dettled. To cope with it, it is necessary to insure a constant growth in the output of meat and other livestock produce and pay considerably more attention to livestock development...Collective farmers and all village inhabitants are absolutely interested in privately possessing the statutory permitted number of cattle. Collective farms are expected to ^{help} ~~assist~~ them in this respect..."

25 Nov - General Secretary Brezhnev addressed the Third All-Union

Collective Farm Congress

"...there are many unsolved questions in the development of livestock breeding. The low level of mechanization of farms, an insufficiently developed industry for the production of machinery and equipment for livestock breeding, and insufficient attention being paid to the strengthening of the fodder base for many years... ~~and~~ [there are] serious shortcomings in the work of collective and state farms in providing fodder for livestock...On some farms little attention is devoted to increasing the number of livestock, and it was even allowed to decline... We have in mind to examine in the near future a number of questions connected with the upsurge of this branch. These include first and foremost such questions as increasing the production of machines and equipment, changing stockbreeding products...

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the economic aspect of the problems concerning the increase in the number of cattle and the output of animal products..."

January 1970 - Proceedings of the December 1969 CC Plenum were ~~not~~ never published, including a speech by Brezhnev, but the Soviet press indicated that "serious measures" with respect to livestock had been taken at the plenum.

.13 Jan Pravda editorial

"At the CPSU Central Committee plenum insufficiencies in the development of agriculture were also subjected to criticism, primarily in the field of stockbreeding. In a number of republics and oblasts an unfounded decrease in the cattle and poultry population has been allowed. A decrease in the production of meat, milk, and eggs has also been allowed. As a result, difficulties in supplying the population with stockbreeding products have begun to appear, especially in large industrial centers. This has demanded serious measures to improve the situation in stockbreeding..."

16 Jan Sel'skaya Zhizn

"At the CPSU Central Committee plenum shortcomings in the development of agriculture, and primarily of public livestock, were subjected to criticism. The potential for increasing meat resources is not being fully utilized in a number of rayons. There is little concern on certain farms for increasing the ~~number~~ number of cattle and a reduction in numbers is being permitted...The difficulties and serious problems which arise in livestock breeding are usually ascribed to fodder shortages. The state has taken serious measures to strengthen the forage reserve...The breeding of cattle and poultry on individual farms has great significance...it would be completely wrong to ignore ~~the~~ the private sector as an additional source of agricultural produce...The kolkhoz and sovkhos# leaders should give them help with the wherewithal for young cattle and fodder."

"Considerable shortcomings in the development of public livestock rearing were criticized at the party Central Committee plenum... The year's lessons aim our farms toward the intensive fattening of animals, raising the herd's productivity, and improving the qualities of produce with the efficient utilization of forage, with which the branch is badly provided at the moment... At this time, the period of wintering of stock, soviet and agricultural organs must help the kolkhoz and sovkhoz workers to undertake work ~~that~~ conforming to plan in order to increase the herd, guard the young, and improve pedigree."

February 1970 - Pravda hinted that the government had decided to vote additional allocations of feed to the livestock sector

11. Feb Pravda editorial

"In recent years the production and procurement of meat, milk and eggs has increased. However, the constantly growing demand for livestock production is still not satisfied fully. In order to more quickly guarantee the demand of the country, state and collective farms must in the final year of the five-year plan give to industry and trade significantly more livestock production...The interest^s of the state demand that the unbased liquidation of [livestock] farms be immediately stopped and where this is dictated by necessity -- new ones created...The state is creating all the necessary prerequisites for the development of the quickly ^{ripening} ~~branching~~ branch of ~~the~~ livestock. Additional large quantities of feed have been allocated..."

1972 Soviet Grain Purchases

Purchase Date in 1972	From	Grain	Terms	(Quantity) (Million metric tons)	\$/Ton	Million Dollars	Delivery Period
<u>U. S. Origin</u>							
5 July	Continental	#2 yellow corn	C&F	4.50	\$63 (Est.)	\$283.50	Jul 72 - Jun 73
5 & 11 July	Continental	Wheat	FOB	4.85	60 (Est.)	291.00	July 72 - Jun 73
		White		.35			
		Durum		.35			
		Hard		4.15			
11 July	Dreyfus	Hard wheat	FOB	.75			
	Cargill	"	"	1.00			
	Cook	"	"	.50			
19 July	Cook	"	"	.10	2.55	60 (Est.)	153.00
20 July	Garnac	"	"	.20			Prior to 30 June 73
1 August	Dreyfus	Hard wheat	FOB	1.50			
	Cargill	"	"	1.00			
	Cook	"	"	.30	3.75	60	225.00
2 August	Bunge	"	"	.60			Prior to 30 Jun 73
	Garnac	"	"	.35			
3 August	Continental	#2 yellow corn	C&F	2.50			
17 November	Cook	Rye	N.A.	.50	63 (Est.)	157.00	Aug 72 - Jul 73
				18.65		\$1,135.00	
				19.05**			
<u>Foreign Origin</u>							
28 February	Canada	#1 & 2 Can. West Red Sp. Wh.	N.A.	3.50		350.00	Aug 72 - Jul 73
11 July	Canada	Wheat	N.A.	1.50			
		Barley	N.A.	.20			
5 July	Syria	Durum Wheat	FOB	.15	60 (Est.)	9.00	Jul 72 - Jun 73
4 August	France	Wheat	N.A.	.50	60.00	60.00	Sep. 72 - Apr 73
		Barley	N.A.	.50			
21 August	Australia	Wheat (FAQ)	FOB	1.00	59.70	60.00	Sep 72 - May 73
21 August	Sweden	Wheat	FOB	.15			
		Barley		.20	60.00	31.50	by summer of '73
		Oats		.175	(est.)		
September	Romania	Wheat	N.A.	.50	60.00	30.00	"current year"
					(est.)		
10 October	Germany	Rye	N.A.	.24	50.00	12.00	N.A.
					(est.)		
18 October	Finland	Wheat	N.A.				
		Barley		.055	60.00	3.30	"current year"
		Oats			(est.)		
Subtotal				8.67		\$555.80	
TOTAL				27.72		\$1,690.80	
						(+10% for shipping	
						\$1,860.60)	

* Includes 400,000 tons of barley from a 1971 contract for delivery in FY 1973. Soviets also bought from US 1 million tons of soybeans worth \$125.